

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

What is claimed is:

1. (Withdrawn) A continuous process for assembling a slider onto fastening strips comprising the steps of:
 - providing a first fastening strip,
 - providing a second fastening strip,
 - providing a slider adapted to be slidably disposed on said fastening strips and facilitating occlusion of said fastening strips when moved towards a first end thereof and facilitating the deocclusion of said fastening strips when moved in the opposite direction, said fastening strips and said slider having a longitudinal X axis and a transverse Y axis, said transverse Y axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said fastening strips and said slider having a vertical Z axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said transverse Y axis, said slider comprising a housing having a separator facilitating the deocclusion of said fastening strips,
 - urging said slider onto said fastening strips at said first end in said horizontal X axis.
2. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 1 further providing that a length of said first fastening strip is occluded to a corresponding length of said second fastening strip to provide an occluded length, said separator penetrates a portion of said occluded length of said fastening strips.
3. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 1 further providing that said first end is a sealed end.
4. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 1 further providing that said sealed end is a seam.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

5. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 3 further providing that said first end has an opening in said sealed end to accommodate the separator.

6. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 4 further providing that said first fastening strip and said second fastening strip are portions of a container, and said step of urging said slider onto said fastening strips is performed when said fastening strips are portions of said container.

7. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 1 further providing said fastening strips are traveling in a path, said slider is positioned in said path of said fastening strips.

8. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 5 further providing that said first fastening strip and said second fastening strip create a leakproof seal at said first end when said fastening strips are occluded.

9. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 1 further providing said slider with a flexible occlusion member.

10. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 1 further providing said slider with a curved shoulder.

11. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 1 further providing said first fastening strip with an offset.

12. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 1 further comprising the step of positioning the fastening strips on a first drum and positioning the slider on a second drum.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

13. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 12 further providing that said first drum and said second drum have a common axis.

14. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 12 further providing that said first drum moves the fastening strips faster than said second drum moves the slider.

15. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 12 further providing that said slider is removably attached to said second drum.

16. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 15 further providing said second drum with a slider cartridge to hold said slider.

17. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 16 further providing that said cartridge moves toward said fastening strips.

18. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 17 further providing said fastening strips are traveling in a path, said slider is positioned in the path of said fastenings strips.

19. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 12 further providing said fastening strips are removably attached to said first drum.

20. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 19 further providing a vacuum for holding said fastening strips on said first drum.

21. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 18 further providing said slider is removed from said slider cartridge.

22. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 21 further providing said slider cartridge moves away from said first drum.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

23. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 20 further providing said fastening strips are removed from said first drum.

24. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 1 further providing that said fastening strips are positioned on a conveyor.

25. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 24 further providing that said fastening strips are removably attached to the conveyor.

26. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 25 further providing a vacuum for holding said fastening strips on said conveyor.

27. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 24 further providing a holder for holding the slider.

28. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 27 further providing a vibrating feeder to supply the slider to the holder.

29. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 27 further providing that said fastening strips are traveling in a path, said holder positions said slider in the path of said fastening strips.

30. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 29 further providing said slider is removed from said holder.

31. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 25 further providing said fastening strips are removed from said conveyor.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

32. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for a continuous process for assembling a slider onto fastening strips, said slider adapted to be slidably disposed on said fastening strips and facilitating occlusion of said fastening strips when moved towards a first end thereof and facilitating the deocclusion of said fastening strips when moved in the opposite direction, said fastening strips and said slider having a longitudinal X axis and a transverse Y axis, said transverse Y axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said fastening strips and said slider having a vertical Z axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said transverse Y axis, said slider comprising a housing having a separator facilitating the deocclusion of said fastening strips, said apparatus comprising:

a fastening strip holder which holds a first fastening strip and a second fastening strip,

a slider holder which holds a slider,

the slider holder and the fastening strip holder urge said slider onto said fastening strips at said first end in said horizontal X axis.

33. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 32 wherein a length of said first fastening strip is occluded to a corresponding length of said second fastening strip to provide an occluded length, the slider holder and the fastening strip holder urge the slider onto the fastening strips such that said separator penetrates a portion of said occluded length of said fastening strips.

34. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 32 wherein said first end is a sealed end.

35. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 32 wherein said sealed end is a seam.

36. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 34 wherein said first end has an opening in said sealed end to accommodate the separator.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

37. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 35 wherein said first fastening strip and said second fastening strip are portions of a container, and said slider holder urges said slider onto said fastening strips when said fastening strips are portions of said container.

38. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 32 wherein said fastening strip holder is traveling in a path, said slider is positioned in said path of said fastening strips.

39. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 32 wherein the fastening strip holder is a first drum and the slider holder is on a second drum.

40. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 39 wherein said first drum and said second drum have a common axis.

41. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 39 wherein said first drum moves the fastening strips faster than said second drum moves the slider.

42. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 39 wherein said slider is removably attached to said slider holder.

43. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 42 wherein said slider holder is a slider cartridge to hold said slider.

44. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 43 wherein said cartridge moves toward said fastening strips.

45. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 44 wherein said fastening strips are traveling in a path, said slider is positioned in the path of said fastenings strips.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

46. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 39 wherein said fastening strips are removably attached to said first drum.

47. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 46 further comprising a vacuum for holding said fastening strips on said first drum.

48. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 45 wherein said slider is removed from said slider cartridge.

49. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 48 wherein said slider cartridge moves away from said first drum.

50. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 47 wherein said fastening strips are removed from said first drum.

51. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 32 wherein said fastening strip holder is a conveyor.

52. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 51 wherein said fastening strips are removably attached to the conveyor.

53. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 52 further comprising a vacuum for holding said fastening strips on said conveyor.

54. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 51 further comprising a vibrating feeder to supply the slider to the slider holder.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

55. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 51 wherein said fastening strips are traveling in a path, said slider holder positions said slider in the path of said fastening strips.

56. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 55 wherein said slider is removed from said holder.

57. (Withdrawn) The invention as in claim 52 wherein said fastening strips are removed from said conveyor.

58. (Currently Amended) A closure device comprising:

a first fastening strip;

a second fastening strip;

a slider adapted to be slidably disposed on said fastening strips and facilitating the occlusion of said fastening strips when moved in an occlusion direction towards a first end thereof and facilitating the deocclusion of said fastening strips when moved towards a second end thereof, said fastening strips and said slider having a longitudinal X axis and a transverse Y axis, said transverse Y axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said fastening strips and said slider having a vertical Z axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said transverse Y axis, said slider comprising a housing having a first side portion, a second side portion and a flexible occlusion member for facilitating occlusion of said fastening strips when said slider is moved to said first end of said fastening strips; wherein said flexible occlusion member comprises a first leg for engaging said first fastening strip and a second leg for engaging said second fastening strip, ~~wherein said legs extend from the fastening strip second end of the slider generally toward the fastening strip first end of the slider.~~ wherein said first and second legs extend inwardly in the longitudinal x-axis towards the occlusion direction from the first and second side portions, respectively.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

59. (Cancelled).

60. (Cancelled)

61. (Cancelled)

62. (Cancelled)

63. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said fastening strips are disposed between said first and second legs.

64. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said flexible occlusion member has a first position prior to attaching said slider to the first fastening strip and a second position when said flexible occlusion member is attached the first fastening strip.

65. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 64 wherein the second position is deflected from the first position.

66. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said first leg has a first position prior to attaching said slider to the first fastening strip and a second position when said first leg is attached to the first fastening strip.

67. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 66 wherein the second position is deflected from the first position.

68. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said first leg flexes for facilitating the attachment of said slider onto said fastening strips in said longitudinal X axis.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

69. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said second leg flexes for facilitating the attachment of said slider onto said fastening strips in said longitudinal X axis.

70. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said fastening strips have a first width and a second width, said flexible occlusion member has a first position for the first width and a second position for the second width.

71. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 70 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the first position.

72. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 70 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the second position.

73. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said fastening strips have a first width, said slider can be used with a second set of fastening strips having a second width, said flexible occlusion member has a first position for the first width and a second position for the second width.

74. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 73 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the first position.

75. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 73 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the second position.

76. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said fastening strips comprise U-channel type fastening strips.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

77. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said fastening strips comprise arrowhead type fastening strips.

78. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ closure device as in claim 58 wherein said fastening strips comprise profile type fastening strips.

79. (Currently Amended) A slider adapted to be slidably disposed on first and second fastening strips, said slider facilitating the occlusion of said fastening strips when moved in an occlusion direction towards said first end thereof and facilitating the deocclusion of said fastening strips when moved towards said second end thereof, said slider comprising:

a longitudinal X axis and a transverse Y axis, said transverse Y axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said slider having a vertical Z axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said transverse Y axis;

a housing having a first side portion, a second side portion and a flexible occlusion member for facilitating occlusion of said fastening strips when said slider is moved to said first end of said fastening strips; wherein said flexible occlusion member comprises a first leg for engaging said first fastening strip and a second leg for engaging said second fastening strip, wherein said first and second legs extend inwardly in the longitudinal x-axis towards the occlusion direction from the first and second side portions, respectively.

80. (Cancelled)

81. (Cancelled)

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

82. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 79, wherein said flexible occlusion member comprises a second inwardly biased leg for engaging said second fastening strip.

83. (Cancelled)

84. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 79 wherein said fastening strips are disposed between said first and second legs.

85. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 79 wherein said flexible occlusion member has a first position prior to attaching said slider to the first fastening strip and a second position when said flexible occlusion member is attached to the first fastening strip.

86. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 85 wherein the second position is deflected from the first position.

87. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 79 wherein said first leg has a first position prior to attaching said slider to the first fastening strip and a second position when said first leg is attached to the first fastening strip.

88. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 87 wherein the second position is deflected from the first position.

89. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 79 wherein said first leg flexes for facilitating the attachment of said slider onto said fastening strips in said longitudinal X axis.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

90. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 79 wherein said second leg flexes for facilitating the attachment of said slider onto said fastening strips in said longitudinal X axis.

91. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 79 wherein said fastening strips have a first width and a second width, said flexible occlusion member has a first position for the first width and a second position for the second width.

92. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 91 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the first position.

93. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 91 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the second position.

94. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 79 wherein said fastening strips have a first width, said slider can be used with a second set of fastening strips having a second width, said flexible occlusion member has a first position for the first width and a second position for the second width.

95. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 94 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the first position.

96. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ slider as in claim 94 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the second position.

97. (Currently Amended) A container comprising:
first and second side walls, said first and second side walls including mating first and second fastening strips respectively, said first and second fastening strips comprising a closure device arranged to be interlocked over a predetermined length,

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

a slider adapted to be slidably disposed on said fastening strips and facilitating the occlusion of said fastening strips when moved in an occlusion direction towards a first end thereof and facilitating the deocclusion of said fastening strips when moved towards a second end thereof, said fastening strips and said slider having a longitudinal X axis and a transverse Y axis, said transverse Y axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said fastening strips and said slider having a vertical Z axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said transverse Y axis, said slider comprising a housing having a first side portion, a second side portion and a flexible occlusion member for facilitating occlusion of said fastening strips when said slider is moved to said first end of said fastening strips; wherein said flexible occlusion member comprises a first leg for engaging said first fastening strip and a second for engaging said second fastening strip, wherein said first and second legs extend inwardly in the longitudinal x-axis towards the occlusion direction from the first and second side portions, respectively.

98. (Cancelled)

99. (Cancelled)

100. (Cancelled)

101. (Cancelled)

102. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said fastening strips are disposed between said first and second legs.

103. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said flexible occlusion member has a first position prior to attaching said slider to the first

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

fastening strip and a second position when said flexible occlusion member is attached to the first fastening strip.

104. (Original) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 103 wherein the second position is deflected from the first position.

105. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said first leg has a first position prior to attaching said slider to the first fastening strip and a second position when said first leg is attached to the first fastening strip.

106. (Original) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 105 wherein the second position is deflected from the first position.

107. (Previously Presented) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said first leg flexes for facilitating the attachment of said slider onto said fastening strips in said longitudinal X axis.

108. (Currently Amended) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said second leg flexes for facilitating the attachment of said slider onto said fastening strips in said longitudinal X axis.

109. (Previously Presented) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said fastening strips have a first width and a second width, said flexible occlusion member has a first position for the first width and a second position for the second width.

110. (Previously Presented) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 109 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the first position.

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

111. (Previously Presented) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 109 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the second position.

112. (Previously Presented) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said fastening strips have a first width, said slider can be used with a second set of fastening strips having a second width, said flexible occlusion member has a first position for the first width and a second position for the second width.

113. (Previously Presented) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 112 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the first position.

114. (Previously Presented) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 112 wherein said flexible occlusion member will take a set to the second position.

115. (Original) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said fastening strips comprise U-channel type fastening strips.

116. (Original) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said fastening strips comprise arrowhead type fastening strips.

117. (Original) The ~~invention~~ container as in claim 97 wherein said fastening strips
comprise profile type fastening strips.

118. (Currently Amended) A slider adapted to be slidably disposed on first and second fastening strips, said slider facilitating the occlusion of said fastening strips when moved in an occlusion direction towards said first end thereof and facilitating the deocclusion of said fastening strips when moved towards said second end thereof, said slider comprising:

In re Appln. Savicki
Serial No. 09/979,579

Atty. Docket 492.196

a longitudinal X axis and a transverse Y axis, said transverse Y axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said slider having a vertical Z axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said longitudinal X axis, said vertical Z axis being perpendicular to said transverse Y axis;

a housing having a flexible occlusion member for facilitating occlusion of said fastening strips when said slider is moved to said first end of said fastening strips; wherein said flexible occlusion member comprises a first leg for engaging said first fastening strip and a second leg for engaging said second fastening strip, wherein said legs project toward ~~the first end of the slider~~ the occlusion direction and flex in the direction of the transverse Y axis.